FISCAL NOTE

SB 340 - HB 820

March 15, 2001

SUMMARY OF BILL: Increases the maximum weekly benefit for injuries occurring on or after July 1, 1999, from 66 2/3% of the employee's average weekly wage up to 100% of the state's average weekly wage, or \$541 in FY 1999 and \$562 in FY 2000, to 110% of the state's average weekly wage, or \$595.10 for FY1999 and \$618.10 for FY 2000.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Less Than \$100,000/Claims Award Fund Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Less Than \$100,000

Estimate assumes:

- an increase in state expenditures to the Claims Award Fund as the result of increased benefits paid to state employees. However, the Department of Treasury states that the Claims Award Fund had only 2 claimants who were eligible for the current maximum workers' compensation rate of \$562 in fiscal year 2000 and 4 claimants that were eligible for the maximum workers' compensation rate of \$541 in fiscal year 1999.
- an increase in expenditures to local governments as the result of benefit increases. However the number of local government employees that would receive the increased amount is not estimated to be significant. For information purposes, the TML pool has had only 10 cases in the past two years that would be impacted by the bill.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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